In order then to inſpire a love of home and domeſtic pleaſures, children ought to be educated at home, for riotous holidays only make them fond of home for their own ſakes. Yet, the vacations, which do not foſter domeſtic affections, continually diſturb the courſe of ſtudy, and render any plan of improvement abortive which includes temperance; ſtill, were they aboliſhed, children would be entirely ſeparated from their parents, and I queſtion whether they would become better citizens by ſacrificing the preparatory affections, by deſtroying the force of relationſhips that render the marriage ſtate as neceſſary as reſpectable. But, if a private education produces ſelf-importance, or inſulates a man in his family, the evil is only ſhifted, not remedied.

This train of reaſoning brings me back to a ſubject, on which I mean to dwell, the neceſſity of eſtabliſhing proper day-ſchools.

But, theſe ſhould be national eſtabliſhments, for whilſt ſchool-maſters are dependent on the caprice of parents, little exertion can be expected from them, more than is neceſſary to pleaſe ignorant people. Indeed, the neceſſity of a maſter's giving the parents ſome ſample of the boys abilities, which during

ing the vacation is ſhewn to every viſitor *, is productive of more miſchief than would at firſt be ſuppoſed. For they are ſeldom done entirely, to ſpeak with moderation, by the child itſelf; thus the maſter countenances falſehood, or winds the poor machine up to ſome extraordinary exertion, that injures the wheels, and ſtops the progreſs of gradual improvement. The memory is loaded with unintelligible words, to make a ſhew of, without the underſtanding's acquiring any diſtinct ideas: but only that education deſerves emphatically to be termed cultivation of mind, which teaches young people how to begin to think. The imagination ſhould not be allowed to debauch the underſtanding before it gained ſtrength, or vanity will become the forerunner of vice: for every way of exhibiting the acquirements of a child is injurious to its moral character.

How much time is loſt in teaching them to recite what they do not underſtand? whilſt, ſeated on benches, all in their beſt array, the mammas liſten with aſtoniſhment to the

* I now particularly allude to the numerous academies in, and about London, and to the behaviour of the trading part of this great city.